

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:

an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned air, which is provided with a ventilation opening and a defroster opening;

a ventilation duct connected to the air conditioning unit at the ventilation opening, which conducts the air-conditioned air to a ventilation outlet;

a defroster duct connected to the air conditioning unit at the defroster opening, which conducts the air-conditioned air to a defroster outlet; and

an additional duct branching off from the defroster duct, which conducts the air-conditioned air from the defroster duct to an additional outlet.

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2. The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a switching damper for selectively conducting the air-conditioned air from the defroster duct to either the defroster outlet or the additional outlet.

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3. The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 2, further comprising:

an open/close damper for opening and closing passage of the air-conditioned air of the additional duct.

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4. The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1,
wherein

the additional outlet comprises an upper ventilation
outlet which is provided on an upper surface of an instrument
5 panel to distribute the air-conditioned air to a vehicle rear
seat.

5. The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1,
wherein

10 the additional outlet comprises a rear ventilation outlet
provided near a vehicle rear seat.

6. The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1,
further comprising:

15 a ventilation damper for opening and closing the
ventilation opening of the air conditioning unit, wherein the
ventilation damper is controlled to open and close the
ventilation opening in dependence on a selected air
distribution mode, and wherein

20 the defroster opening is kept open irrespective of the
selected air distribution mode.

7. A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:

an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned
25 air;

first and second ducts connected to the air conditioning

unit, the first duct conducting the air-conditioned air to a ventilation outlet, the second duct conducting the air-conditioned air to a defroster outlet; and

5 a third duct branching off from the second duct, which conducts the air-conditioned air to one of an upper ventilation outlet provided on an upper surface of an instrument panel to distribute the air-conditioned air to a vehicle rear seat or a rear ventilation outlet provided near the vehicle rear seat.

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8. A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:

an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned air;

15 a first path for conducting the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit to a ventilation outlet;

a second path for conducting the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit to a defroster outlet; and a third path branching off from the second path for conducting the air-conditioned air to an additional outlet.